

Dated: December 23, 1999.

Thomas O. Melius,

Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-070-00-7122-00-56-36, SRP-00-06/07]

Temporary Closure of Selected Public Lands in La Paz County, AZ, During the Operation of the 2000 Whiplash Parker 400K/200K (kilometer) Desert Race(s)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

SUMMARY: The Lake Havasu Field Office Manager announces the temporary closure of selected public lands under its administration in La Paz County, Arizona. This action is being taken to help ensure public safety and prevent unnecessary environmental degradation during the official permitted running of the 2000 Whiplash Parker 400K/200K Desert Race.

DATES: January 14, 2000, through January 16, 2000.

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS: Specific restrictions and closure periods are as follows:

Designated Course

1. The portion of the race course comprised of BLM lands, roads and ways located 2 miles either side of:
 - (a) Shea Road from the eastern boundary of the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation to the junction with Swansea Road and 2 miles either side of Swansea Road from its junction with Shea Road to the eastern bank of the Central Arizona Project Canal.
 - (b) Swansea Road from its junction with Shea Road to the Four Corners intersection.
 - (c) The unpaved road that runs from "Midway", north to Mineral Wash and then west to the CAP Canal is closed to public use from 6 a.m. Friday morning, January 14, 2000 to 6 p.m. Sunday, January 16, 2000.
2. The entire designated race course is closed to all vehicles except authorized and emergency vehicles.
3. Vehicle parking or stopping in areas affected by the closure is prohibited except in the designated spectator areas. Emergency parking for brief periods of time is permitted on roads open for public use.
4. Spectator viewing (on public land) is limited to the designated spectator

areas located South and North of Shea Road, as signed app. 8 miles east of Parker, Arizona.

5. The following regulations will be in effect for the duration of the closure:

Unless otherwise authorized, no person shall:

- a. Camp in any area outside of the designated spectator areas.
- b. Enter any portion of the race course or any wash located within the race course, including all portions of Osborne Wash.
- c. Spectate or otherwise be located outside of the designated spectator areas.
- d. Cut or collect firewood of any kind, including dead and down wood or other vegetative material.
- e. Firearms must be unloaded and cased, and are not to be used during the closure.
- f. Fireworks are prohibited.
- g. Operate any vehicle (other than registered event vehicles), including an off-highway vehicle (OHV), which is not legally registered for street and highway operation, including operation of such a vehicle in spectator viewing areas, along the race course, and in designated pit areas.
- h. Park any vehicle in violation of posted restrictions, or in such a manner as to obstruct or impede normal or emergency traffic movement or the parking of other vehicles, create a safety hazard, or endanger any person, property or feature. Vehicles so parked are subject to citation, removal and impoundment at the owner's expense.
- i. Take any vehicle through, around or beyond a restrictive sign, recognizable barricade, fence, or traffic control barrier.
- j. Fail to keep their site free of trash and litter during the period of occupancy or fail to remove all personal equipment, trash, and litter upon departure.
- k. Violate quiet hours by causing an unreasonable noise as determined by the authorized officer between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Mountain Standard Time.
- l. Allow any pet or other animal in their care to be unrestrained at any time. Signs and maps directing the public to the designated spectator areas will be provided by the Bureau of Land Management and/or the event sponsor. The above restrictions do not apply to emergency vehicles and vehicles owned by the United States, the State of Arizona or to La Paz County. Vehicles under permit for operation by event participants must follow the race permit stipulations. Operators of permitted vehicles shall maintain a maximum speed limit of 35 mph on all La Paz

County and BLM roads and ways. Authority for closure of public lands is found in 43 CFR Part 8340, Subpart 8341; 43 CFR 8360, Subpart 8364.1, and 43 CFR Part 8372. Persons who violate its closure order are subject to arrest and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or imprisoned for not more than 12 months.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bryan Pittman, District Law Enforcement Ranger, or Myron McCoy, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Lake Havasu Field Office, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86406, (520) 505-1200.

Dated: December 23, 1999.

Donald Ellsworth,

Field Manager, Lake Havasu Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-020-1010-AA]

Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana, Billings and Miles City Field Offices, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council will have a meeting January 27, 2000 at the BLM—Montana State Office Conference Room, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana starting at 8:00 a.m. Primary agenda topics include the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Celebration, continued discussion on access, and an update on the draft off-highway vehicle environmental impact statement.

The meeting is open to the public and the public comment period is set for 11:00 a.m. on January 27. The public may make oral statements before the Council or file written statements for the Council to consider. Depending on the number of persons wishing to make an oral statement, a per person time limit may be established. Summary minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marilyn Krause, Public Affairs Specialist, Miles City Field Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, Montana 59301, telephone (406) 233-2831.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with